

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
WATER BUREAU  
PART 5 RULES OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE (POG #3)**

Guidance No. 3

January 26, 2005

Title: Part 5 Rules Operational Guidance (POG #3) for Installations of Oil Containing Electrical Equipment

**I. Purpose**

- A. The purpose of Part 5 Rules Operational Guidance #3 is to provide guidance for reporting spills involving installations of oil containing electrical equipment in accordance with the Part 5 Rules, Spillage of Oil and Polluting Materials, R 324.2001-324.2009, promulgated under Part 31, Water Resources Protection, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

**II. Background**

- A. The Water Bureau of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is responsible for implementing the Part 5 Rules, which were substantially revised and placed into effect on August 31, 2001, and additional release reporting requirements added by Section 3111b of Part 31, effective June 15, 2004.
- B. Historically, some electric utilities have reported the spillage of oil from installed electrical equipment as a response to the Part 5 Rules spill reporting requirements contained in Rule 7, Pollution Incident Report.
- C. The definitions of both oil storage facility and on-land facility specifically exclude "...installations of oil-containing electrical equipment," Rule 324.2001(f) and (g).
- D. Examples of electrical equipment include transformers, capacitors, reclosures, voltage regulators, rectifiers circuit breakers, and bushings.

**III. Guidance**

- A. For the purposes of clarifying this rule, the Water Bureau considers the following:
  - 1. Installations of oil containing electrical equipment are not oil storage facilities nor are they on-land facilities as defined by the Part 5 Rules and therefore are not covered by the Part 5 Rules.
  - 2. Installations of oil containing electrical equipment include equipment that is installed.

3. Oil containing electrical equipment that is not installed and meets or exceeds the threshold management quantity indicated below is regulated by Rule 7 of the Part 5 Rules:
  - a. single container having a storage capacity more than 660 gallons; or
  - b. on-site total storage capacity of 1,320 gallons for all oils not exempted by Rule 3, Conditional Exemptions.
4. The spill reporting requirements of Rule 7 for installations of oil containing electrical equipment do not apply.
5. Additional Part 5 Rules information, including POG # 2 for Oil, is available at the following Internet Web site: [http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\\_23420---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313_23420---,00.html)

Approved



Robert F. Babcock, Coordinator  
Security and Emergency Response  
Water Bureau  
[babcockr@mi.gov](mailto:babcockr@mi.gov)  
517-373-8566